OUR BOYS AND GIRLS

AT EASTER TIME.

The little flowers came through the ground,
At Easter time, at Easter time;
They raised their heads and looked around,
At happy Easter time.

And every pretty bud did say,
"Good people, bless this holy day,
For Christ is risen, the angels say,
At happy Easter time."

The pure white lily raised its cup,
At Easter time, at Easter time;
The crocus to the sky looked up,
At happy Easter time.

"We'll hear the song of heaven!" they say,
"Its glory shines out on us to-day;
O, may it shine on us alway,
At holy Easter time!"

'Twas long and long and long ago,
That Easter time, that Easter time;
But still the pure white lilies blow,
At happy Easter time.

And still each little flower doth say,
"Good Christians, bless this holy day!
For Christ is risen, the angels say,
At blessed Easter time."

—Youth's Companion.

"BEN-DOUGHNUTS."

MOTHER, can't I go skating on the Pond-hole? It's just splendid skating, and Abby Lote's coming for me."

"No, Sarah Maria, you cannot go—not one step."

"Oh, mother!" said Sarah Maria, pleadingly.

"I don't see why you want to pester me so, Sarah Maria. I know it isn't fit weather for skating; why, it is a regular thaw. Only yesterday noon those Simmons boys were skating on the river and at two o'clock it was all open, running water. Now I don't want to hear another word about it" —as Sarah Maria opened her mouth. "Sit down in the keeping room and study your arithmetic lesson like a good girl, and pretty soon you can have a nice hot fried dried-apple turnover."

Sarah Maria went slowly out of the room. Her head was bent down; her fine light hair, like thistle down, was braided tightly in a little braid which stuck out stiffly as she walked away; she jerked her elbows and twitched her shoulders in her red and black plaid dress.

Sarah Maria's round, freckled face was all twisted and knotted up in the effort she was making not to cry. She was a "spunky" little girl.

Sarah Maria was not a very pretty child, and red was not her color, she was so pink herself; and today she looked pinker than usual, in her emotion. Even the parting of her hair was pink.

"Shut the door," called her mother, "so the smell of the fat won't go all over the house."

Sarah Maria did not quite dare to bang the door, but she shut it in a very decided manner.

After Abby Lote and the others had come and gone, Sarah Maria sat down by the window and listlessly began to study her arithmetic lesson; but she did more looking out of the window than studying.

"Mother didn't say I couldn't go and look on," said Sarah Maria to herself, presently. "I guess I'll go just for a little while."

So she put on her hat and coat, and went very quietly out of the front door. She knew very well that she was not doing right. She did not take her skates.

"Oh, goody! so you've come, after all," called Abby Lote.

"I've only come to look on a minute," said Sarah Maria.

"Oh, come on, it's such fun; the ice is lovely 'Ben-doughnuts.'"

"I haven't got my skates."

"No matter; Carrie May's just going home. She'll let you take hers."

"No, I guess not," said Sarah Maria. "I can't stay only a few minutes. I'll watch the rest."

The ice was very soft and "limber," bending up and down, but not breaking, as the children skated rapidly over it. Such "bendy" ice they always called "Ben-doughnuts."

Poor Sarah Maria! She felt that she must go on, and the children kept teasing her "to try it just once across and back."

"Pooh!" at last said one boy, "you don't darst to; you are a 'fraid cat, that's what you are. I stump you to go across five times."

This was too much for Sarah Maria, she never could take a "stump." In a twinkling she had put on Carrie May's skates and had dashed out upon the Pond-hole.

"'Pears to me, Tildy," said Grandma to Sarah Maria's mother, "you are just a leetle hard on Sary. Why couldn't you have let her go to look on, or skate just a leetle mite?"

"Now, Ma," said Mrs. Brown as she quickly filled and folded over a dried apple turnover, "I can't have you spoiling that child. It was not safe for her to go; and I know it is the best thing for her to stay in the house, and she must learn when I say no, I mean it. Just see how still she is."

"Just as still as a mouse," said Grandma, with a sigh.

"I am making her an extra nice turnover with some lemon juice and a few raisins mixed in the dried apple for being so good."

Sarah Maria did the stump of skating five times over an especially "bendy" place; then she and Abby Lote, hand in hand, thought they would skate across a few more times on their own account. It was really very exciting. The big boy had gone home and many of the remaining children were afraid to venture far from the shore, the ice was melting so fast.

Sarah Maria and Abby Lote decided to try it once more "to go across like lightning."

Alas! their "lightning" was not quick enough, or the ice was just ready to break; and the two little girls suddenly found themselves standing up to their necks in the icy, muddy water.

Oh, how they screamed! The other children screamed, too; and the united calls for help soon brought some men who, with planks and rails, with much trouble pulled out the frightened children.

"Naughty gals," said one of the men "get home at once. I would whip you well if you were my children."

The other man spoke more gently and helped the girls home; they were so wet and cold that they could hardly walk without help. He left Abby Lote at her house, and then went on with Sarah Maria.

"Here, marm," he said, pushing open the kitchen door, "is something, I believe, belongs here;" and he put Sarah Maria down in the middle of the floor.

"Sarah Maria!" exclaimed her mother, "have you been to the Pond-hole?"

"Yes," answered Sarah Maria, faintly.

"And I thought I could trust my little daughter," said her mother, rapidly undressing the trembling child.

A big washtub was brought into the kitchen and half-filled with very warm water. Without a word Mrs. Brown stood Sarah Maria up in it and bathed her well, gave her a most vigorous rubbing with a coarse towel, put her into her little red flannel nightgown, then into bed, with piles of quilts and comforters over her.

"Sarah Maria, you will stay here the rest of the day, or I will know the reason why," said her mother.

Poor Sarah Maria! She could not keep from crying now as she lay, half-smothered, in the big feather bed.

Now and then Mrs. Brown looked in, bringing hot stones and bricks which she placed in the bed.

Once she brought a big bowl of mullein tea. "Drink this, every drop," she said; and Sarah Maria swallowed the hot, sweet, nauseous drink without a murmur.

"Can't I go in and sit with that poor child?" asked Grandma.

"No, Ma," said Mrs. Brown; "Sarah Maria has been very naughty, and she must be punished. I want her to grow up a good girl."

"I don't think I was ever quite so hard with you, Tildy," quavered Grandma.

There were no fried pies for Sarah Maria that day, nor any of the good things she could smell cooking in the kitchen; but she had plenty of warm gruel, which was, perhaps, full as much as she deserved.

Grandma begged hard "to give poor little Sary just one cooky."

But Mrs. Brown was firm.

"Sarah Maria must be taught to mind; she must learn a lesson from this disobedience."

Sarah Maria's lesson was a hard one; but she learned it well. She was ill several days in bed with a feverish cold. Her mother nursed her tenderly, and had several long talks with her little daughter.

Sarah Maria never tried "Ben-doughnuts" again, and, what was more, she never again disobeyed her mother.—*Elizabeth Robinson, in Independent.*

A PERFECT CURE.

"Halloa! what's the matter, Harry? Is this a case of the doleful dumps?"

This was Uncle George's salutation as he entered a cheerful room in which his young nephew sat crouching by the fire.

"What's the matter?" he repeated; "I'm sure I can't guess what troubles you on such a bright morning as this, so you'll just have to tell me about it."

"Well, Uncle George, Aleck has gone sleighriding with papa, and I wanted to go myself."

"O ho! so it's a case of wanting to have the best of everything, is it? Well, that's a common disease in this world, and it's no wonder if boys have it sometimes, since grown people have it so often. Now I'm going to play doctor and try to cure you. Let me look at your eyes. Eyes dull—that's a bad symptom. Are there any bad feelings in particular, Harry?"

"Well," drawled Harry, who was honest enough to tell the truth even when it exposed his own fault, "I must say that I think Aleck gets too many favors just because he's delicate. I don't see that that's any reason for giving him all the treats. I should think I might have some to encourage me in being healthy and strong."

Uncle George laughed. "Your symptoms are very bad, my boy. Now, the first thing that I prescribe is a slight dose of work. Just fill up this wood basket, will you? Then we'll have a bright fire burning when your mother comes to the sitting room."

Harry complied with the request, and really he did look much pleasanter by the time the wood basket was full.

"Now, the next thing that I prescribe is another dose of work, in the line of helping some one, you know. Just ask your mother if she wouldn't like to have the path cleared down to the front gate; I noticed that it has been drifted over."

Somehow or another there was no refusing Uncle George, and Harry was soon busy in clearing the path. While he was doing this, he forgot to be sulky any longer. His mother and uncle, who were together in the sitting-room, heard him whistling a merry tune. When he re-entered the house he looked like sunshine itself.

"My patient is doing well," declared the lively uncle. "Now by way of candy after the medicine, I'll let him read this new magazine for young people which is crowding itself out of my coat pocket."

Harry grasped the magazine eagerly, for he was very fond of reading. He was soon laughing heartily over one of the stories.

"So it seems that there are some pleasures left in life, even if one can't have exactly the thing he wanted most." This was Uncle George's comment, but probably Harry did not hear it.

After awhile the gentleman looked up once more from the desk at which he sat writing. "Maria," he inquired of Harry's mother, "isn't it nearly time for the noon mail?"

"Yes," answered Mrs Baxby.

"Then I'm going to prescribe for Harry once more, by way of completing the cure. Harry, would you like to go to the postoffice, and take little Alf with you for an airing? You've been reading long enough. I'm your doctor yet, you see."

"At your service, doctor," answered Harry, springing to his feet and making a polite bow.

"Then Ill' trouble you to take these letters with you. Here, little Alf, let me help you on with your coat."

When the two boys were ready to start Uncle George gave a final injunction. "Go out of the side door, Harry, and see if you can find anything standing on the porch."

Harry obeyed orders. What was his surprise to find a beautiful new sled named "Express," standing outside the door.

"Oh, oh, oh!" he exclaimed, "exactly what I wanted. How did Uncle George know? Now, Alf, I'll give you a famous ride all the way to the office and back. But first I must run in and thank Uncle George."

The thanks were expressed most heartily, and they seemed to please Harry's uncle, for he responded by another hearty laugh. "So you see that there are treats to be had even by boys who are hearty and strong, and there's no occasion for wishing to take other people's pleasures from them. Now I pronounce you entirely cured and I recommend an afternoon's coasting for a boy who is in perfect health. What does your mother say?"—*Mary Johanna Porter, in Christian Intelligencer.*

EASTER EGGS.

But few people have any idea that the originals of the many colored "eggs" which are now being distributed as Easter gifts have probably descended to us from the greatest of the "Chinese Spring Festivals," and can boast an antiquity of more than 700 years before the Christian era. So there appears to be no new thing under the sun; and although the magic eggs of to-day are merely receptacles for a nondescript medley of bon-bons and bijouterie, they are a survival, or rather revival, of one of the quaintest of Old World customs.

This practical method of disposing of Easter eggs suggests that much of the ceremony connected with them is due to the celebration of the Easter Feast, which succeeds the Lenten Fast. That "an egg at Easter" is a very old proverb in this country is sufficiently shown by the fact that the Pope sent Henry VIII. an easter egg in a silver case; while an exact schedule of the personal expenses of Edward I. contains against Easter Sunday, the suggestive item: "Four hundred and a half eggs, 1s. 6d." The price is as noteworthy as the number.

But the most remarkable feature of the usage is its international character. Thus in Russia, it is customary to exchange visits and eggs on Easter Day and "to drink a neal of brandy." Again, in Italy, dishes of eggs are sent to the priests to be blessed, after which they are carried home and placed in the center of the table. It is the correct thing for all the guests to eat one of them. The custom also exists in Spain and Germany, and generally among the Jews, Greeks, Persians in some form or another.—*Chambers' Journal.*

—Dr. Nansen's return is now eagerly awaited in London. The Savage club of that city is especially anxious for his safe appearance. On the eve of his departure for the north pole he wrote his name on a wall of the Savage club and asked that it might not be wiped out until his return.

Incomparable

is the Valley of the Salt River.

Its alfalfa fields with their deep rich green, the ozone laden air from the vast pine forests of the north, mingled with the sweet aroma from thousands of acres of blossoming fruit trees, the landscape crossed and recrossed with streams of living water, a cloudless sky—little wonder that every visitor is captivated, and that weary invalids find anew the springs of life.

If you have energy and a little capital, financial independence can be readily attained on a few acres of land in this Valley.

Our pamphlet tells you more about it—what others have done—what you may do—gives only facts.
Cheap Excursions (free to buyers).

Arizona Improvement Co., 828 New York Life Building, Chicago, Ill.

UNIVERSALIST BOOKS.

Life-Work of Rev. Dr. Brooks.

THE LIFE-WORK OF ELBRIDGE GERRY BROOKS.* By E. S. Brooks. 12mo. 248 pages. $1.00.

This memoir of Rev. Dr. Brooks, by his son, has already been received with much favor in our church circles, and in other quarters where the devoted and faithful minister was known and honored. The memoir is written after a unique plan and is original in style and treatment. The eleven chapters are each introduced by historical preludes, in which some important scene or event in the world's history is depicted, which may be accepted as illustrating the particular point in the career of Dr. Brooks which is afterward treated. Around these historical studies are grouped the facts in the life of Dr. Brooks which are of interest to the public and in which his honorable career as a minister of the Universalist Church is detailed. The volume is altogether outside of the well worn pathway of religious biography, and is a fresh and interesting contribution to literature of that class.

A Book of Daily Worship.

MANNA. A Book of Daily Worship. By Rev. J. W. Hanson, D. D. 12mo. 388 pages. $1.00.

In this manual of devotion, a brief and simple form of worship is submitted for every day in the year. A single page is devoted to each service, combining a Scripture selection and a prayer. The Scriptures are chosen with regard to devotional, doctrinal and practical influence; and the prayers come from a large number of sources, including the Catholic and Protestant Liturgies, "from St. Chrysostom to Theodore Parker, from Hannah More to James Martineau, from Bishop Watson to Abel C. Thomas." They are adapted to the purpose of "Manna" with skill and appropriateness, and with the result of giving a variety of devotional forms unsurpassed in any previous collection. It elicits the highest praise from our people, and deserves a place in every family.

DEVOTIONAL MELODIES. Adapted to Social Worship. Compiled By Rev. O. F. Safford. 18mo. 72 pages. 30 cents. $3.00 per Dozen.

Will be found a valuable aid in the prayer, praise and conference meeting, and in the family circle. It has been prepared with special reference to the needs of our people, and much care bestowed in the effort to furnish both tunes and hymns of such a nature as will enable persons to sing in the spirit of fraternal praise, while the judgment and best moral sense shall give their hearty approval. The book contains some seventy tunes and over one hundred hymns.

ELY AND THOMAS'S DISCUSSION. A Series of Letters between Ezra Styles Ely, D. D., and Rev. Abel C. Thomas. 18mo. 286 pages. 50 cents.

This volume is well known. It has passed through many editions and has been styled "The Favorite Discussion." In a series of letters, brief, compact and comprehensive, Ely and Thomas discussed the great question of human destiny. Dr. Ely was a Presbyterian and a prominent man in the Presbyterian Church. He was a clear and able reasoner, and an eloquent divine. Mr. Thomas met the argument at every turn and achieved an early renown by his conduct of the debate. Those who wish to see Universalism presented in a discussion, and in contrast with the opposite view, are recommended to read Ely and Thomas.

THE GOSPEL LITURGY.* A Prayer Book for Churches, Congregations and Families. 16mo. 360 pages. Sheep, 75 cents.

This work was prepared by the direction of the General Convention of Universalists. Rev. A. C. Thomas was the editor of the volume, and furnished many of the prayers and orders of service. It contains 261 hymns and a "Congregational Harmonist" of thirty tunes for public and private worship.

ORIGIN AND HISTORY OF THE DOCTRINE OF ENDLESS PUNISHMENT. By Rev. T. B. Thayer, D. D. 12mo. 280 pages. 75 cents.

This volume shows that the doctrine of endless punishment is not of divine origin and traces it directly to heathen sources. It carefully examines the Old Testament and finds no record of the doctrine in the Patriarchial and Law periods of Jewish history, discovers it among the pagan nations of Rome, Greece and Egypt, and claims that it was invented by heathen legislators and poets, as shown by their own confessions. It gives extracts from heathen writings, describing hell, its location, inhabitants and punishments; and comparing these with the church doctrine, shows that endless punishment was not taught in the New Testament, and discusses its introduction into the Christian church and the evil influence it has always exerted. The work is written in a popular style and is intended for the people. In a brief compass it gives the results of wide reading and much scholarly study. It is one of the best works for general circulation among those who believe in the doctrine which it opposes, and whose heathen origin it so clearly shows.

BIBLE PROOFS OF UNIVERSAL SALVATION. By Rev. J. W. Hanson, D. D. 16mo. 107 pages. 25 cents.

This little work contains the principal passages of Scripture that teach the final holiness and happiness of all mankind. It begins with Genesis and traces the doctrine to the end of Revelation, giving the prominent passages, and just enough of comment to weld the whole together in an unbroken chain. It is a most efficient missionary, giving the Scriptural proofs of the great doctrine of a world's salvation in a manner so convincing as to be unanswerable.

BIBLE THREATENINGS EXPLAINED, or Passages of Scripture Sometimes Quoted to Prove Endless Punishment, Shown to Teach Consequences of Limited Duration. By Rev. J. W. Hanson, D. D. 16mo. 209 pages. 25 cents.

Takes up every so-called "orthodox" text, and proves that all the passages that are ever employed as missiles against Universal Salvation are perfectly in accordance with the promises of the Bible. With Bible Proofs in one hand, and Bible Threatenings in the other, any Universalist will be armed *cap-a-pie*, and thus armed "one can chase a thousand and two put ten thousand to flight." It is the most valuable of documents for distribution among those who think the law contradicts the promises. It shows, conclusively, that there is not a text in the Bible that sustains the doctrine of Endless Torment.

THE BIBLE HELL. The Word rendered Hell in the Bible Shown to Denote a State of Temporal Duration. By Rev. J. W. Hanson, D. D. 16mo. 70 pages. 25 cents.

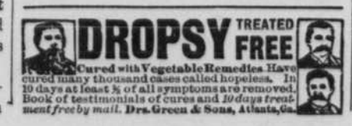
This small but compact book traces the word Hell through the Bible, giving every passage in which it occurs, with a full exposition of these passages. The four words rendered Hell in the Bible are Sheol, Hades, Tartarus and Gehenna. They are all explained, and it is shown that the Bible Hell is in this world and that it is limited in duration.

Universalist Publishing House,
Western Branch, Chicago.

Sarsaparilla Sense.

Any sarsaparilla is sarsaparilla. True. So any tea is tea. So any flour is flour. But grades differ. *You want the best.* It's so with sarsaparilla. There are grades. You want the best. If you understood sarsaparilla as well as you do tea and flour it would be easy to determine. But you don't. How should you? When you are going to buy a commodity whose value you don't know, you pick out an old established house to trade with, and trust their experience and reputation. Do so when buying sarsaparilla.

Ayer's Sarsaparilla has been on the market 50 years. Your grandfather used Ayer's. It is a reputable medicine. ***There are many Sarsaparillas—but only one Ayer's.*** It cures.



DROPSY TREATED FREE

Cured with Vegetable Remedies. Have cured many thousand cases called hopeless. In 10 days at least ⅔ of all symptoms are removed. Book of testimonials of cures and *10 days treatment free by mail.* Drs. Green & Sons, Atlanta, Ga.

Easter Concert Exercises.

Easter Brightness

Words by PALMER HARTSOUGH.
Music by J. H. FILLMORE.
With Recitations, etc.

Price 5 cents each; 55 cents per dozen, by mail, postpaid; $4.00 per 100, by express, not prepaid. Sample copy, 5 cts.

Easter Joy

Arranged by S. W. STRAUB.

CONTAINING

Beautiful Songs, Scripture Responses, Select Readings, Recitations, etc.

Price, 5 cents each, 50 cents per dozen, postage paid; 50 copies or over, 4 cents each, transportation to be paid by the purchaser.

Send 5 cents for Sample copy.

Easter Pictures

Words by MISS GRACE F. WHITE.
Music by ARTHUR F. BURNETT.

Price of the whole exercise, including the Carols: Less than 50 copies, 5 cents each, transportation paid; 50 copies, or over, 4 cents each, transportation to be paid by the purchaser. Send 5 cents for a sample copy. The Carols separate at the rate of $2.00 per hundred, transportation paid. Sample copies free.

Universalist Publishing House,
Western Branch, Chicago.

DR. NASH'S MANUAL

"THE SAVIOUR OF THE WORLD"

BY

C. Ellwood Nash, D. D.

No. VII.—Delayed Issue of the Manuals of Faith and Duty.

This MANUAL has just been issued from the press of the Universalist Publishing House. It is a timely work and one of rich interest to all Christian believers in the Universalist Church.

Following is the Table of Contents:

INTRODUCTORY.
I. The Claim and Its Significance.
II. Reality of the Claim.
III. The Claim Admissible.
IV. Why a Saviour.
V. What is it to be Saved?
VI. The Problem.
VII. Man Need Salvation.
VIII. Men Cannot Save Themselves.
IX. Man Needs a Personal Friend.
X. One Perfect Saviour Needed and One Only.
XI. How is Christ a Saviour?
XII. The Gift of Life.
XIII. What a Saviour!

104 Pages—Uniform with the other in this popular series.

Price 25 Cents.

ADDRESS

Universalist Publishing House
Western Branch, Chicago.

THE LEISURE OF GOD

AND OTHER STUDIES IN THE

Spiritual Evolution,

BY

John Coleman Adams, D. D

CONTENTS.

Chap.
I. The Leisure of God.
II. The Inevitable Conflict.
III. The Line of Least Resistance.
IV. The Root of all Righteousness.
V. Severity in Love.
VI. The Law of Reserve.
VII. Yesterday, Today and Forever.
VIII. The Victory of the Meek.
IX. Immortal Life and Eternal Life.
X. The Premature Judgment of Divine Things.
XI. Some Things Settled.
XII. The Use and Abuse of Optimism
XIII. The Christ in the Creation.
XIV. The City that is to Come.
XV. White Robes and Palm Branches.

12mo. Cloth, 233 Pages. $1.00.

Universalist Publishing House
Boston and Chicago.

Burlington Route **WINTER TOURS**

IN PRIVATE PULLMAN PALACE CARS

Under care of a Special Agent, will leave Chicago January 9, February 6 and March 5, for

CALIFORNIA

Via San Antonio, El Paso, Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Barbara, San Francisco, Del Monte and San Jose, returning via Salt Lake and Rio Grande Scenic Route through Colorado. Price of ticket includes all expenses. Everything

STRICTLY FIRST CLASS

For pamphlets with particulars apply to C., B. & Q. ticket agent or to T. A. Grady, Manager Excursion Department, 211 Clark St., Chicago.

CALIFORNIA IN 3 DAYS

THE OVERLAND LIMITED — Leaves Chicago 6.00 p. m. daily. Palace Drawing-room Sleeping Cars Chicago to San Francisco and Los Angeles without change. All meals served in Dining Cars.

THE PACIFIC EXPRESS — Leaves Chicago 10.30 p. m. daily. Through Palace Sleeping Car accommodations and through Tourist Sleeping Car to California via

THE NORTH-WESTERN LINE
CHICAGO & NORTH-WESTERN R'Y

3 days Chicago to California

New Fast Limited Train

The California Limited, via Santa Fe Route, leaves Chicago daily at 6:00 p. m. arriving Los Angeles and San Diego in three days, and San Francisco in three and a half days. Leaves Kansas City at 9:10 a. m. and Denver at 4:00 p. m, daily.

Strictly first class limited service, superb new equipment of palace and compartment sleepers, dining cars and chair cars, vestibuled throughout, lighted by Pintsch gas, and running from Chicago to Los Angeles without change.

Santa Fe Route

G. T. Nicholson, G. P. A., Monadnock Bldg. CHICAGO.

RAIL ROAD LANDS

For Sale at Low Prices and on Easy Terms.

The Illinois Central Railroad Company offers for sale on easy terms and at low prices, 150,000 acres of choice fruit, gardening, farm and grazing lands located in

---SOUTHERN ILLINOIS.---

They are also largely interested in, and call special attention to the 600,000 acres of land in the famous

YAZOO DELTA OF MISSISSIPI

lying along and owned by the Yazoo & Mississippi Railroad Company, and which that Company offers at low prices and on long terms. Special inducements and facilities offered to go and examine these lands both in Southern Illinois and in the "Yazoo Delta," Miss. For further description, map and any information, address or call upon E. P. SKENE, Land Commissioner, No. 1 Park Row, Chicago, Ill.